

Ultrasound Practice & Education The Australian Perspective

Adrian Goudie
Emergency Physician
Fremantle Hospital

Council Member
Australasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine

DISCLAIMER

- ❖ Ultrasound machines are or have been supplied by the following companies in the courses I am involved with:
 - ❖ GE
 - ❖ Sonosite
 - ❖ Zonare
 - ❖ Philips
 - ❖ Toshiba

History

- ❖ Australia has a long history of development and use of ultrasound
- ❖ Mostly, this has been within the “traditional” areas:
 - ❖ Radiology
 - ❖ Cardiology
 - ❖ Obstetrics & Gynaecology
 - ❖ Vascular Surgery

Newer Developments

- ❖ (Like the rest of the world)
- ❖ Ultrasound use in Australia has now spread (*exploded*) to “non traditional” users
- ❖ = Clinicians

Current Users

- ❖ Emergency Medicine (wide range)
- ❖ Anaesthetics (echo & procedures)
- ❖ Intensive Care (echo & procedures)
- ❖ Rheumatology (synovium)
- ❖ Respiratory Medicine (procedures)
- ❖ Renal Medicine (procedures)
- ❖ Sports Medicine (MSK)
- ❖ ... and growing rapidly

Future Users

- ❖ Allied Health Users
 - ❖ Physiotherapy
 - ❖ Podiatry
 - ❖ Nurse Practitioners
 - ❖ Etc.

Training

- ❖ Currently evolving (and changing)
- ❖ Mixed between
 - ❖ Undergraduate - very limited
 - ❖ Specialty Colleges - varies
 - ❖ Private providers – short courses
 - ❖ University - diplomas
 - ❖ In hospital training, colleagues, self education

Undergraduate

- ❖ Uni Notre Dame Sydney
 - ❖ 7 workshops, 1 hr hands on
- ❖ Uni Notre Dame Perth, Griffith Uni
 - ❖ Tutorials during ED rotation
- ❖ Others
 - ❖ Exposure during radiology and other rotations

Specialty Training Traditional Users

- ❖ Mandatory Requirements
 - ❖ Practical
 - ❖ Reporting
 - ❖ Radiology
 - ❖ Cardiology
 - ❖ Vascular Surgery
 - ❖ Obstetrics & Gynaecology

Specialty Training Non - Traditional Users

- ❖ Some colleges are incorporating into their training requirements
- ❖ Variable levels of requirements
 - ❖ “Understanding”
 - ❖ Ability to interpret images
 - ❖ Practical requirements
- ❖ Limited by inability to provide training widely

University

- ❖ Well structured to provide knowledge components
- ❖ Limited in ability to provide practical training / experience

Private Providers

- ❖ Short Courses
- ❖ Some accredited by external bodies
- ❖ Strong practical focus

- ❖ Generally seen as only first step in training

Accreditation

- ❖ Hospital / Health Organisation based
- ❖ Does not cover private practice in rooms
- ❖ Not currently regulated by Government
- ❖ Not specifically addressed by insurers

Accreditation

- ❖ Some Specialty Colleges have recommendations for credentialing requirements
 - ❖ Emergency Medicine

Accreditation

- ❖ Government is currently investigating and reviewing payment for ultrasound by non-imaging specialties
- ❖ Likely to become de-facto standard except in public hospitals

Australasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine

Founded 1970

Multidisciplinary Society

- ❖ Medical (all specialties)
- ❖ Sonographers
- ❖ Scientific

Australasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine

- ❖ Requested to create a qualification for clinicians using ultrasound
- ❖ Certificate of Clinician Performed Ultrasound (CCPU)
 - ❖ Modular design
 - ❖ Each module requires
 - ❖ Course / Knowledge
 - ❖ Experience (Logbook)
 - ❖ Assessment

The Future ... (possibly)

- ❖ Increased teaching at undergraduate level
- ❖ Increased use within specialty training programmes
- ❖ Some uses will become standard
 - ❖ Nerve blocks in anaesthetics
 - ❖ Echo in Life Support

The Future ... (possibly)

- ❖ Outside of these, demand for standards (?and payment) will require other qualification
- ❖ Provided by?
 - ❖ ASUM / CCPU
 - ❖ Specialty Colleges
 - ❖ Universities (unlikely)
 - ❖ Government (unlikely to provide but likely to set bar for payments)

❖ Questions?